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## Updated Snohomish County Road Closure Map is More Accurate, Functional

Map is more streamlined than older version, saves time and money

**EVERETT, Wash., Monday, Dec. 14, 2020** – Snohomish County wants its residents to have the tools to get where they are going – whether it is during the bright sunny days of summer or a blustery winter night. The Department of Public Works has <u>upgraded its online road closure map</u>, so residents can check to see what the safest and most direct route to their destination is before they get behind the wheel.

"We want motorists to be safe and also be able to take the most time effective route to where they are going," Snohomish County Public Works Director Kelly Snyder said. "These maps are most important and have the highest viewership when we have heavy snow or rain. However, these maps can be helpful all year round."

The map, located on the county's <u>road closure webpage</u>, shows all recent, full, Snohomish County road closures in unincorporated Snohomish County. It does not show single-lane closures. The map only shows the roads managed by the county. When zoomed out, a red dot shows the center point of the road closure and, when zoomed in, the road appears red in the exact location it is closed. Green dots show roads that have been recently opened. Each dot, when clicked on, reveals details about the issue, such as more defined location data and the reason for the closure.

"We heard from residents and wanted to offer an upgraded map to make the functionality more useful for everyone," Road Maintenance Director Jim Parker said. "With this new map we have clearly defined areas for the closures. The list of closures in the dropdown menu at the bottom of the map is the same as the old map, but now has a filter function that makes it easier to find specific locations."

The map is updated Monday through Thursday during business hours and more frequently during weather events. It also updates immediately once the data is inputted, unlike the previous road closure map which had a 30-minute wait between posting and viewing online.

The new streamlined mapping system is less cumbersome to update so it also saves county staff time and subsequently tax dollars. The road closure mapping application has been enrolled in the Snohomish County Continuous Improvement Process (CIP). New features and functionality will be added over time based on the needs of the county and our citizens. If you have suggestions for improvements, please contact road@snoco.org.

The <u>old mapping system</u> can still be found on the webpage, but will be retired on December 23, 2020.

## Links:

- New road closure map: <a href="https://snoco-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=15578784822345459c008d66ed1253ab">https://snoco-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=15578784822345459c008d66ed1253ab</a>
- Old road closure map: <a href="https://www.snoco.org/v1/SPW/emclosure/index.html">https://www.snoco.org/v1/SPW/emclosure/index.html</a>
- Road closure webpage: <a href="https://snohomishcountywa.gov/518/Road-Closures">https://snohomishcountywa.gov/518/Road-Closures</a>

## **About Snohomish County Public Works**

The Snohomish County Public Works Department constructs and maintains county roads; controls and manages surface water quantity, quality, and fish habitats; and oversees the recycling and disposal of solid waste. The department's main office is located at 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett, WA 98201. For more information about Snohomish County Public Works, visit <a href="https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/PublicWorks">www.snohomishcountywa.gov/PublicWorks</a>.

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